

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS

Subject: Hiss Chambers

File Number: 65-14920

Section: VOL. 17 Serials 2378-2465



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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65-14920

Vol. 17

X 2000

Hoyle
7-25-77

SERIALS - 2378-2465

NEW YORK

INVENTORY WORKSHEET

FIELD OFFICE
FILE NO:
VOL. NO:NEW YORK
65-14920
17RE: A. HissetalDATE 5/77

(Mo / Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
2,378	2/24/49	Report of SA O'Toole	10	Yes	
2,379	2/24/49	Report of SA Walsh	27	Yes	
2,380	2/24/49	Report of SA Frew	10	Yes	
2,381	2/24/49	Report of SA Frew	6	Yes	
2,382	2/24/49	Report of SA Walsh	50	Yes	
2,383	2/25/49	Letter to Director from New York	2	Yes	
2,384	2/25/49	Teletype to Bureau, Los Angeles from New York	1	Yes	
2,385	2/25/49	Teletype to Bureau, Washington Field Office New York from Baltimore	1	Yes	
2,386	2/25/49	Memo of ASAC Belmont	1	No	Released in full
2,387	2/25/49	Teletype to Bureau, Baltimore, Washington Field Office from New York	1	Yes	
2,388	2/25/49	Teletype to Bureau, Washington Field Office from New York	3	Yes	
2,389	2/25/49	Letter to Director from New York	6	Yes	

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65-14920
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RE: _____

DATE

5/77

(Mo / Yr)

SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
2,390	2/25/49	Teletype to Bureau, Washington Field Office from New York	1	Yes	
2,391	2/26/49	Teletype to Atlanta from New York	1	No	Released in full
2,392	2/23/49	Memo of SA Martin	5	No	Released in full
2,393	2/25/49	Letter to Director from New York	1	Yes	
2,394	2/25/49	Letter to Washington Field Office from Director	1	Yes	
2,395	2/21/49	Cover page - SA Johnson	1	Yes	
2,396	2/24/49	Letter to Director from Milwaukee	2	Yes	
2,397	2/25/49	Report of SA Connors	6	Yes	
2,398	2/25/49	Letter to Director from Washington Field Office	1	Yes	
2,399	2/25/49	Letter to Director from Washington Field Office	1	Yes	
2,400	2/25/49	Memo to New York from Director	1	Yes	
2,401	2/25/49	Memo to New York from Director	1	Yes	

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SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
2,402	2/25/49	Letter to Little Rock from Director	1	Yes	
2,403	2/25/49	Letter to Pittsburgh from Director	1	Yes	
2,404	2/25/49	Lab Report to Washington Field Office	1	Yes	74-1333
2,405	2/25/49	Letter to Director from Philadelphia	1	Yes	
2,406	2/28/49	Teletype to Bureau, Washington Field Office from New York	1	Yes	
2,407	2/23/49	Memo of SA Spencer	3	No	Released in full
2,408	2/25/49	Report of SA Alker	11	Yes	
2,409	2/25/49	Letter to Director from Charlotte	1	Yes	
2,410	2/25/49	Letter to San Diego from St. Paul	1	Yes	
2,411	2/28/49	Memo of ASAC Belmont	1	No	Released in full
2,412	2/28/49	Memo of Supervisor Tuohy	1	No	Released in full
2,413	2/28/49	Teletype to Bureau, Washington Field Office from New York	1	Yes	

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SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
2,414	3/1/49	Teletype to Bureau, Washington Field Office, Baltimore from New York	2	Yes	
2,415	2/28/49	Teletype to Bureau from New York	1	Yes	
2,416	2/28/49	Teletype to New York, Boston from Bureau	1	Yes	
2,417	2/28/49	Teletype to Bureau, Los Angeles, New York from San Francisco	2	Yes	
2,418	2/28/49	Teletype to Bureau, New York from Los Angeles	1	Yes	
2,419	2/28/49	Teletype to New York, Baltimore, Philadelphia from Bureau	1	Yes	
2,420	2/17/49	Memo of ASAC Belmont	1	No	Released in full
2,421	2/24/49	Letter to Director from Philadelphia	1	Yes	
2,422	2/25/49	Memo to New York from Newark	1	No	Released in full
2,423	2/25/49	Memo to New York from Director	1	Yes	
2,424	2/25/49	Letter to Director from Washington Field Office	1	Yes	
2,425	3/1/49	Teletype to Bureau, Boston from New York	1	Yes	

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SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
2,426	2/23/49	Report of SA Connors	40	Yes	
2,427	2/25/49	Report of SA Claridge	10	Yes	
2,428	2/25/49	Letter to Director from Washington Field Office	1	Yes	
2,429	2/25/49	Letter to Director from Washington Field Office	2	Yes	
2,430	2/28/49	Teletype to Bureau, Detroit from Washington Field Office	1	Yes	
2,431	2/28/49	Memo to New York from Director	1	Yes	
2,432	2/28/49	Lab Report to New York	3	Yes	74-1333
2,433	2/28/49	Memo to New York from Director	1	Yes	
2,434	2/28/49	Letter to Director from Washington Field Office	1	Yes	
2,435	2/28/49	Lab Report to New York	1	Yes	
2,436	3/1/49	Report of SA Oberndorf (Washington Field Office)	21	Yes	
2,437	3/1/49	Memo of SA McAndrews	1	No	Released in full

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SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
2,438	3/1/49	Teletype to Bureau, New York from Philadelphia	1	Yes	
2,439	3/1/49	Clipping re Chambers	8	No	Released in full
2,440	2/25/49	Memo of SA Plant	1	No	Released in full
2,441	2/25/49	Memo to New York from Director	1	Yes	
2,442	2/28/49	Letter to Chicago from Director	1	Yes	
2,443	3/1/49	Letter to Director from Washington Field Office	2	Yes	
2,444	3/1/49	Memo of ASAC Belmont	2	No	Released in full
2,445	3/1/49	Teletype to New York from Washington Field Office	1	Yes	
2,446	3/1/49	Teletype to Bureau, New York from Baltimore	1	Yes	
2,447	3/1/49	Teletype to New York from Bureau	1	Yes	
2,448	3/1/49	Teletype to Bureau, Washington Field Office, Los Angeles, Baltimore from New York	3	Yes	
2,449	3/1/49	Teletype to Bureau, Washington Field Office, Baltimore from New York	1	Yes	

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SERIAL	DATE	DESCRIPTION (TYPE OF COMM, TO, FROM)	NO OF PGS	SENT TO BUREAU	BUFILE NOS. DIRECTED TO
2,450	3/1/49	Teletype to Washington Field Office from New York	1	No	Released in full
2,451	3/1/49	Teletype to New York from Bureau	1	Yes	
2,452	3/1/49	Teletype to Bureau, New York from Baltimore	2	Yes	
2,453	3/1/49	Memo of ASAC Belmont	1	No	Released in full
2,454	2/25/49	Memo to Director from Los Angeles	11	Yes	
2,455	3/2/49	New York letter to Director 2/18/49-15 page letter with photos attached-being kept in SAC's Office	1		
2,456	2/28/49	Letter to Director from New York	1	Yes	
2,457	2/28/49	Letter for Director from New York	1	Yes	
2,458	3/1/49	Teletype to Bureau, Boston from New York	1	Yes	
2,459	3/1/49	Teletype to New York, Philadelphia from Bureau	1	Yes	
2,460	3/1/49	Report of SA Taylor	12	Yes	
2,461	3/1/49	Report of SA Howard	35	Yes	

**FIELD OFFICE
FILE NO:
VOL. NO:**

New York
65-14920
17

INVENTORY WORKSHEET

RE: _____

DATE 5/7

.. 5/77

(Mo / Yr)



United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
New York, New York

February 25, 1949

MEMO

RE: JAHAM

MR. SCHEIDT
MR. BELMONT
MR. WHELAN
MR. COLLIER
MR. GRANTHAM
MR. HANZ
MR. REAUGAULT
MR. RYAN
MR. TAYLOR
MR. TREVORSON

MO

CLERK
FEDERAL CLERK
TELETYPE UNIT

W. J. Kelly

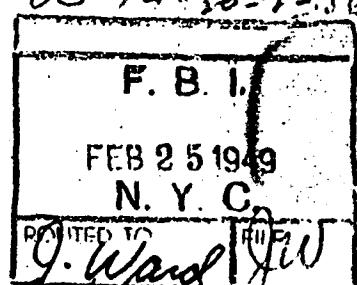
Rebulet February 18th to the New Haven office, instructing that that office interview Mrs. WILLIAM C. MARSHALL at Ansonia. On February 25, I spoke to ASAC Santoiana of the New Haven office who advised that they had not yet been able to establish contact with Mrs. MARSHALL; that she was living with another woman and they were attempting to reach her direct rather than through the other woman. I advised Mr. Santoiana that Mrs. MARSHALL's letter to the Bureau skirted on a matter which we were handling carefully here and therefore we thought it might be desirable for one of the agents here to go up to New Haven at such time as an interview is scheduled with Mrs. MARSHALL to work with the New Haven agent on the interview. Mr. Santoiana advised they have no information on FRANK BANGS in their indices but they did have some information on MAHEU. He advised that as soon as they arrange an interview they will let us know so that an agent from here can go up and accompany the New Haven agent on the interview.

Mr. Santoiana called back and advised that an interview with Mrs. MARSHALL had been arranged for 4:00 pm. I advised him that one of our agents would be at the New Haven office between 2:00 and 3:00 pm this afternoon.

A. H. BELMONT
ASAC

Mr. Kelly
Mr. Kelly was advised
that H. J. of going to
New Haven interview.

AHB:CTC
65-14920



FBI ATLANTA

2-26-49

6-20 PM EST

RSC

SAC, NEW YORK

U R G E N T

JAHAM. PERJURY, ESP DASH R, IS DASH R. REURTEL FEBRUARY TWENTYFOUR LAST. WILLIAM E. BYRD, MANAGER, DAVISON PAXON DEPARTMENT STORE, COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, SAYS WAS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FROM JULY NINETEEN THIRTYTHREE TO OCTOBER NINETEEN FORTY. KNEW ALGER HISS BY SIGHT ONLY, HAD NO OFFICIAL OR SOCIAL CONNECTION WITH HISS, HAS NO INFORMATION REGARDING HIM, HAS NO DOCUMENTS OF ANY KIND EMANATING FROM HISS. HISS WAS ATTORNEY SERVING UNDER THE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE

AAA.

BILLS

END

M

OK FBI NYC WS

V

MR. SCHAFFER
MR. BELMONT
MR. WHELAN
MR. COVINGTON
MR. GRANVILLE
MR. KUBRITZ
MR. MARCHESSAULT
MR. MCMILLAN
MR. NOONE
NIGHT SUPERVISOR
MR. O'CONNOR
MR. BING
MR. SEDANSON
MR. TUOHY
MR. WATSON
CHIEF CLERK
PROPERTY CLERK
TRAINING LNT

65-14920-2391 fm

F. B. I.	
FEB 26 1949	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE
Kelly	
Shannon	

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York
February 23, 1949

Memo:

Re: JAHAM

Re: PETER MICHELANGELO MAGRINI, was:
Pete Magrini, Pete Magrin,
Guido Brogelli, Giuseppe Brogelli,
Commissar Massana

Re Los Angeles teletypes 2/8,9/49.

References teletypes reflected information secured from ~~WILLIAM EDWARD CRANE~~, who has been identified as a photographer utilized by ~~WHITTAKER CHAMBERS~~ in Washington in 1937 in the photographing of Government documents in this case.

Referenced teletypes reflect CRANE indicated acquaintance with an Italian known as "Pete" and this Italian's wife, on the West Coast and later in New York City. CRANE came to New York around the early part of 1935. CRANE said on instructions from CHAMBERS, he had taught this Italian's wife photography, and that he, CRANE, had received a Leica camera from JOHN LOOMIS SHERMAN in San Francisco, which camera CRANE said he later gave to CHAMBERS in New York. CRANE believed CHAMBERS gave this camera to the wife of "the Italian", to whom CRANE gave lessons in photography. CRANE believes this woman still may have this Leica camera. Said teletypes did not indicate whether CRANE said he had used this Leica camera in photostating Government documents, or for any other work in photography for the Soviet apparatus.

CRANE indicated that "the Italian", known to him as "Pete", had fought in the Spanish Civil War on the Loyalist side, and advised he had met "the Italian" on the West Coast in the early 'forties. This individual has now remarried. He further indicated this man's former wife, to whom CRANE had given photographic lessons, was a Spaniard or of Mexican descent.

Subsequently, by teletype of February 19, 1949, Los Angeles Office advised that CRANE had stated he now recalls "the Italian's" first name was GUIDO. Accordingly, a check was made by the writer of all files pertaining to members of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE who fought in the Spanish Civil War on the Loyalist side.

JPM:KW
65-14920
CC-100-78582

65-14920-2392

FFB 23	NY
SEARCHED	SERIALIZED
INDEXED	FILED

APR 1 1949

Memo
NY 65-14920

During the course of this check, the writer ascertained there was a New York file on PETER MICHELANGELO MAGRINI, was.; that among these aliases was the name GUIDO BROGELLI; and that this person had been a member of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE. A review of the file indicated that this person was probably identical with "the Italian" known to CRANE as "Pete" and as "Guido".

Los Angeles was, accordingly, notified by teletype on February 21st of these facts, and was requested to display a photo of MAGRINI to CRANE. Subsequently on the same date, the Los Angeles Office advised that CRANE had identified a photograph of MAGRINI as "the Italian" concerning whom CRANE had given the data set out above.

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS has been interviewed concerning this person. He states that he recalls CRANE introduced him to an Italian in New York on one or two occasions during 1935 or 1936, and that this Italian was a very tall person. He said he believes this is the Italian that CRANE speaks of, but CHAMBERS says that he is unaware of any activities on the part of this Italian in the Soviet apparatus of which CHAMBERS was a member. CHAMBERS further says he cannot recall ever telling CRANE to give photographic lessons to anyone, and he says he never met this Italian's wife. CHAMBERS also states that he cannot recall ever receiving a camera from CRANE or ever giving any such camera to anyone.

CHAMBERS was unable to identify the photo of MAGRINI as being the Italian to whom he was introduced by CRANE, but CHAMBERS says at the present time, he cannot recall exactly what this Italian looked like.

Accordingly, it is not known what part PETER MAGRINI and MAGRINI's former wife may have played in Soviet espionage, although the information given by CRANE would indicate that MAGRINI and his former wife were probably active for Soviet espionage in New York about 1935-1936.

A review of New York file 100-78582 captioned "PETER MICHELANGELO MAGRINI, was.; Security Matter-C" indicates that this is a pending case file assigned to SA J. M. Doran of Section #7. Information contained in this file indicates that PETER MAGRINI's last residence was listed as 1151 Manor Avenue, Bronx, New York, where MAGRINI evidently is residing with his common-law wife BESSIE MAGRINI.

Further, that MAGRINI has a daughter, DELORES LAVINIA MAGRINI, who, during 1948 was attending Public School 77, Ward Avenue and East 176th Street, Bronx, New York.

Memo
NY 65-14920

This file reflects that the Confidential Informant of the Los Angeles Office furnished that office a letter written by MAGRINI under the name of GUIDO BROGELLI to Communist Party Headquarters in Los Angeles on April 26, 1943, reflecting information as to MAGRINI's past history of Communist Party activities, and requesting a reinstatement of MAGRINI into the Communist Party.

In this letter, MAGRINI wrote that during 1934, he was transferred to New York by the Party and worked there until he left for Spain where he was assigned by the Party to do special work in the Mechanized Division of the International Brigade. Further, MAGRINI claimed in this letter when he returned from Spain, he was assigned to a Party branch in which EARL BROWDER was a member, but had moved to Los Angeles in 1940. In this letter, MAGRINI said that because of difficulties with his citizenship, he had dropped out of the Communist Party for a short time, acting on the advice of IDA MILLER, with whom he was well acquainted.

Further, during the Security Matter investigation of MAGRINI, the Washington Field Office was requested by Los Angeles to check the Immigration files on MAGRINI and on MAGRINI's former wife, whom confidential informants of the Los Angeles Office ascertained bore the first name YOLANDA.

The WFO ascertained that I. & N. S. had a file on YOLANDA MAGRINI indicating that this individual was married to PETER MAGRINI, subject of a Security Matter investigation, on November 22, 1937, in New York, New York; further, that she was naturalized in Richmond County, New York on September 27, 1940. YOLANDA MAGRINI's residence was given as 124 Central Avenue, Tompkinsville, which is located in Staten Island, New York.

The New York file on MAGRINI indicates that there is a strong possibility that a Falsely Claiming Citizenship case may be made out against MAGRINI.

The Philadelphia Office has advised that a person named PETER MICHAEL MAGRINI, who has been employed in Philadelphia continuously since 1922 by the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD, claims citizenship through ALFREDO MAGRINI and gives a similar birthdate and birthplace to those of PETER MAGRINI in this case.

Memo
NY 65-14920

Investigation reflects that either the Philadelphia MAGRINI or the MAGRINI, subject of the above case, is falsely claiming citizenship. However, in view of the information set out above in MAGRINI's letter to the Communist Party that because of difficulties with his citizenship, he had dropped out of the Communist Party for a short time, it would appear that a Falsely Claiming Citizenship Case could be made on the instant subject.

Further, the case file on MAGRINI reflects that on June 24, 1948, MAGRINI and his present wife advised a Confidential Informant of the Los Angeles Office that they were very concerned over the fact that they might have to move rapidly or be picked-up, and also that MAGRINI advised the same informant that MAGRINI and his present wife RESSIE were leaving August 16, 1948, for Italy. Further, that the MAGRINIS planned to get a passport on arrival in New York, and would remain in Italy for one year.

The Los Angeles Office further advised in that case that PETER MAGRINI left Los Angeles August 16, 1948, in company with his common law wife RESSIE MAGRINI and their daughter DELORES MAGRINI. Los Angeles advised that according to one of their Confidential Informants, MAGRINI will make application for a passport after he arrived in New York, with the intention of going to Italy. This informant said that MAGRINI's New York address would be care of BASSO, 1151 Manor Avenue, Bronx, New York.

Further, the MAGRINIS advised this informant that they anticipated possible trouble in PETER's obtaining a passport because he had served in the Loyalist Army during the Spanish Civil War, and PETER told informant in the event he cannot get a passport, he will proceed to Italy "via the underground".

By teletype of February 21, the Los Angeles Office advised that this same confidential informant states that PETER MAGRINI advised Los Angeles February 6th last regarding disposing of MAGRINI's interest in a boat, and that MAGRINI may still be in Los Angeles although his residence is still in New York City.

In view of the above, it is deemed advisable that this office immediately take steps to ascertain whether PETER MAGRINI is presently in New York and is still residing at 1151 Manor Avenue, Bronx, New York, care of BASSO. Photos of MAGRINI and his present wife are available in this office, and it may be necessary for a surveillance to be conducted at 1151 Manor Avenue to determine if MAGRINI or his present wife is still residing there.

My
Lead
Nagel

Memo
NY 65-14920

Further, a check should be made at Public School 77 to ascertain whether the daughter of subject, ~~DELORES LAVINIA MAGRINI~~ is presently attending that school.

SA F.F. DALY, resident agent at Staten Island, has been telephonically requested to check the naturalization record of MAGRINI's former wife, ~~YOLANDA MAGRINI~~ and to attempt to secure a photo of her if same is available with her naturalization record at Richmond, Staten Island. Further, he has been asked to ascertain if ~~YOLANDA MAGRINI~~ is still residing at 124 Central Avenue, Tompkinsville, S. I. and to check with the Post Office for any forwarding address in the event she has moved.

Since the file on MAGRINI indicates he intends to leave for Italy in the near future, it is believed advisable a check be made with the passport division of the Department of State at New York to determine whether MAGRINI has made any new request for a passport for travel to Italy.

Further, since there is some question as to whether MAGRINI is a citizen of the United States and since he may deem it expedient to request a passport from the Italian Consulate at New York, it is believed advisable that this office attempt, through former Confidential Informant ND 88, to ascertain from the Italian Consulate in New York whether MAGRINI has made any request of that consulate for an Italian passport for travel to Italy, and if so, when MAGRINI may leave the U. S.

The Philadelphia Office will be instructed to try to clear up the Falsely Claiming Citizenship matter, although this may be difficult since the other person of the same name as ~~PETER MAGRINI~~ claiming citizenship through the same father as does instant MAGRINI, is also a Communist.

However, the fact that there is a possible violation of Falsely Claiming Citizenship on the part of instant MAGRINI may be of help in any interview with MAGRINI on espionage matters.

James P. Martin, SA

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York
February 23, 1949

Memo:

Re: JAHAM

SA John J. Ward and the writer, accompanied by WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, went to Thomaston, Connecticut on February 21st, 1949, and thence to Peterborough, New Hampshire for the purpose of identifying tourist homes at which CHAMBERS stopped with the HISSES in August, 1937.

It will be recalled that CHAMBERS and the HISSES traveled via Route 202 from Washington to Peterborough, N. H. on that trip, and that they stayed over night at a tourist home in Thomaston, Connecticut.

CHAMBERS advised that he is certain that THOMASTON is the town in which they stopped. CHAMBERS' previous description of the square in the center of town, as well as the angle of the roads leading off this town square, was found to be just as he described it. After making a detailed trip throughout the entire village, CHAMBERS eliminated all but the following area: a triangle bounded by the town Main Street (Route 202) on the west, Elm Street on the east, and Union Street. He said that that area looked appropriately familiar. He did not, however, rule out the possibility that the house may have been on the west side of Main Street.

The triangular area described above was gone over very thoroughly, and SA John C. Carr of the New Haven Office was present, and aware of CHAMBERS' indication as to the location. There is not at the present time a tourist home within this area which fits CHAMBERS' recollections. Numerous inquiries were made in the course of the inspection trip, but no good leads were developed. CHAMBERS said he was unable to recognize any house within the area. However, he is certain as to the vicinity. It will be recalled CHAMBERS saw this house only once, at dusk, and his recollection, therefore, would be hazy. While this general area appears to have been unchanged in the past 12 years, it is possible that the particular house may have been altered or torn down. In this connection, it is noted that there is a parking lot opposite the Thomaston Hotel. The possibility exists that the tourist home was located on that site, and that that site is the correct location. It is felt that this possibility should be explored.

TGS:KW
65-14920

65-14920-2467
FEB 23 1949
N. Y. C.

ROUTED
S. Kelly
Bracken
FILED
96

Memo
NY 65-14920

It is recommended that every house (probably about 200 homes) should be specifically eliminated in that triangular-area bounded by Main Street, Elm Street and Union Street. This probably can only be accomplished by interrogating the present occupants of these homes to determine from them or from previous owners the history of these homes during August of 1937.

There are several tourist homes on the Main Street in Thomaston now operating as such and which were operating as tourist homes during August, 1937. CHAMBERS viewed these houses, and when he did not rule them out, arrangements were made for him to enter and observe the interior. These houses are operated by Mrs. MABEL E. PARKE, and Mrs. LILLIAN RABBITT, and Mrs. FRED WOOD. CHAMBERS, however, did not recall these as the place in question. Inasmuch as he did not eliminate them completely, however, copies of the registers for August, 1937, were obtained from the PARKE and RABBITT places. The register for the WOOD house was not available, but Agent CARR stated efforts would be made to locate this record.

These registers are being retained until such time as investigation at Thomaston is completed. If other registers are obtained, those, together with the instant registers located, will be sent to the F.B.I. Laboratory for appropriate handwriting examination.

The Agents and CHAMBERS then proceeded via Route 202 to Peterborough, N. H. On February 22nd, Agent Frederick Connors of the Boston Office, CHAMBERS and the New York Agents made a tour of Peterborough. CHAMBERS stated that the Bleak House is probably the one at which he and Mr. and Mrs. HISS stopped. It is noted that this house is in the specific location which CHAMBERS previously described, and the house and grounds also fitted CHAMBERS' previous description. When we drove into the Bleak grounds, CHAMBERS said he recalled having entered the grounds from Route 202. On inquiry from the present owner, it was learned that the driveway had formerly entered from Route 202.

CHAMBERS said this house seemed to be the house in question, both as to exterior and interior. It is noted he had been given the opportunity of viewing the interior. Agent Connors stated efforts are being made to locate the former operator of this house, and to obtain the records. This investigation has not been completed.

It will be recalled from photographs furnished by the Boston Office, CHAMBERS had previously stated the Knight homestead looked like the right place. CHAMBERS said this is definitely not the place after he had viewed the exterior and interior of the house. He said he would not exclude the Bracket House. The latter is unoccupied, and we

Memo
NY 65-14920

were unable to secure access to the interior. He also suggested to Agent Connors three other houses which he would consider, and Agent Connors stated that he would investigate further. It would appear, however, that the Bleak House is the best possibility in Peterborough.

~~CHAMBERS~~ was also taken to the summer theatre located on Stern's Farm. This, it is noted, fitted the description furnished by CHAMBERS previously.

Also, he was taken to Fitzwilliam N. H. to view the summer residence of the late ~~HARRY DEXTER~~ WHITE. CHAMBERS stated that that place is not the one at which he visited WHITE in 1937. The 1937 WHITE place is as yet unidentified.

CHAMBERS and the New York Agents returned to New York City on February 22, 1949.

Thomas G. Spencer, SA



United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
New York, New York

February 28, 1949

MEMO

RE: JAHAM

On February 28, 1949, I advised Mr. H. E. Fletcher at the Bureau that Mr. T. J. Donegan had informed me that Mr. Ray Whearty of the Department, in appearing for the Government at the hearing before Judge Bondy last week, had acceded to the request of Mr. McLEAN, defense counsel, for the defense to examine the Baltimore documents and to be furnished photographic copies of the microfilm found in the pumpkin. Mr. Donegan advised that Mr. McLEAN had called him this morning and further told him that Mr. Whearty had agreed to furnish samples of typing which the Government had gathered from the Woodstock typewriter in question and to furnish also any additional samples located. I advised Mr. Fletcher that Mr. Donegan felt that Mr. Whearty had gone too far in this latter request; that it was not necessary and was, in effect, exposing the Government's case to a certain extent.

Mr. Fletcher advised that Mr. Whearty had called him concerning this and that he was going over to a conference in a few minutes with Mr. Whearty to discuss the matter. Mr. Fletcher advised that, insofar as the Bureau's position is concerned, the Bureau, of course, must furnish whatever information or documents the prosecuting attorneys agree to. Mr. Fletcher advised me he would let me know the results of the conference.

A. H. BELMONT
ASAC

AHB:CTC
65-14920

F. B. I.
FEB 28 1949
N. Y. C.

J. Kelly of



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, N. Y.

February 28

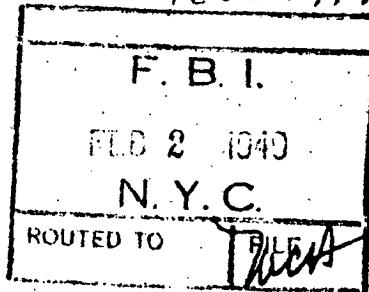
MEMORANDUM:

Re : JA HAM

The period for the next New York report will cover investigation extending from 2-17-49 to 3-3-49. All inserts for this report should be dictated by the close of 3-4-49.

A. J. TUOHY,
Supervisor

65-14920-2418





United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

New York, New York
February 17, 1949

MEMO

RE: JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, et. al.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

On the morning of February 17, I advised Mr. H. B. Fletcher of the Bureau that Mr. T. J. Donegan was somewhat concerned over the fact that the attorneys of HISS are apparently going to utilize two or three typewriting experts to testify for the defense in connection with the typewriting on the CHAMBERS documents. Mr. Donegan wanted to know whether Bureau policy would permit an equal number of laboratory experts from the Bureau to testify concerning this typewriting. Mr. Donegan felt that the use of a larger number of experts by the defense might have weight in the minds of the jury if the testimony differed from that of the Bureau expert.

Mr. Fletcher advised he would check on this and let me know what the Bureau's attitude on it was.

A. H. BELMONT
ASAC

ADDENDUM: 3/1/49

Mr. Fletcher advised that this was under consideration but that in all probability only one examiner would testify from the FBI Laboratory as this is the general policy, and it is felt that the examiner's testimony would be weakened rather than strengthened by the need for corroboration through another examiner. I advised Mr. Donegan of this. He advised he had brought the matter up merely because Mr. Wheatty had suggested that the Bureau examiner be corroborated by an outside expert but that Donegan had demurred to this.

AHB

AHB:CTC
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63-14920-743
F. B. I.
FEB 17 1949
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO: Glanton
FILE: 2

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: February 25, 1949

FROM : SAC, NEWARK

SUBJECT: JAHAM

PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R

There is presently a lead outstanding in the Newark Office to reinterview PAUL TAMER, West Englewood, New Jersey, brother of JOSHUA and HARRY TAMER, and brother-in-law of SAM SHOYET, to develop more completely background information of the TAMER family and to exhibit photographs of known espionage agents to be furnished by the New York Office. The coverage of this lead is awaiting photographs from New York, as well as the results of the interview with HARRY TAMER in New York.

NK 65-3917

PRA:DJ

Answered by letter
dictated 3/1/49 enclos.
pictures Jiv.
1ca 65-14945

65-14920-242

FBI - NEW YORK
FEb 28 1949
McGraw
10411

Q
JF
JF
Kelly (info)
Edward (cc)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York, N. Y.

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. *Mr. Kelly*

March 1, 1949

MEMORANDUM:

Re: JAHAM

Assistant SAC Bob Lally of the Baltimore Division telephonically contacted the writer at 11:55 a.m. this date to advise that agents of the Baltimore Division had "WILLIAM" ROSEN under surveillance. Lally desired to know whether this Division wished the Baltimore Division to subpoena ROSEN for appearance before the Grand Jury.

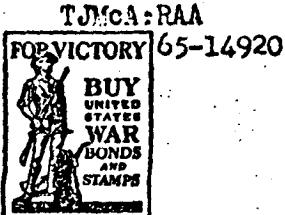
Special Agent J. M. Kelly of this Division contacted Special Assistant to the Attorney General T. J. Donegan, who requested this division to furnish the following information to Baltimore:

Donegan stated that he desired the United States Attorney in Baltimore, on Donegan's request and authorization, to issue a subpoena to ROSEN, returnable before the Grand Jury March 2, 1949. He requested the Baltimore agents to serve this subpoena. Donegan stated that if the United States Attorney had any questions concerning this matter he should contact RAY WEARTY in the Department. Donegan also indicated that if ROSEN could not possibly be before the Grand Jury tomorrow it would be permissible to have him appear on March 3 next.

The above information was furnished to Special Agent Blair of the Baltimore Division, who was acting for ASAC Lally. Blair advised that ROSEN'S attorney BRAVERMAN, had telephonically contacted the Baltimore Division and advised that ROSEN would accept service of subpoena. Mr. Belmont was advised of Donegan's request and indicated he would advise the Bureau of the course we were taking in this matter.

T. J. McANDREWS,
Special Agent

65-14920-2637



Bracken's Office

F. B. I.	
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

MEMO

Re: JAHAM
PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R

For record purposes there is attached hereto an article which appeared in the "American Mercury" for February 1949. The article purports to be a summary of what occurred during the radio broadcast "Meet The Press", during which WHITTAKER CHAMBERS answered questions and made certain charges relative to ALGER HISS.

FRANCIS X. PLANT
Special Agent

EXP:CTG
65-14920



65-14920-2440 *Spn*

FEB 25 1949
N. Y. C.

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WHITTAKER CHAMBERS MEETS THE PRESS

The Chambers-Hiss case has become a cause célèbre in the history of American politics as well as of international espionage, and the trial of Alger Hiss is sure to be followed carefully by millions of Americans, and doubtless also by foreign diplomats. It is very likely, however, that the case never would have reached its present climax were it not for a broadcast by Whittaker Chambers over *Meet the Press*, presented by the Mutual Broadcasting System, in association with the editors of *THE AMERICAN MERCURY*. In that broadcast, outside the protection of the immunity granted witnesses before Congressional committees, Mr. Chambers, in answer to a challenge, did repeat the charge that Mr. Hiss was at one time a member of the Communist Party, which the latter had persistently denied. Shortly afterward Mr. Hiss sued Mr. Chambers for slander and libel, and it was during the pre-trial hearings in connection with that suit that Mr. Chambers revealed the existence of the now celebrated "pumpkin" microfilms of secret State Department dispatches that Mr. Chambers alleges were transmitted to him by Mr. Hiss. The latter's denial before a Federal grand jury that he transmitted these documents to Mr. Chambers formed, in large part, the basis of his indictment for perjury. Mr. Chambers' broadcast over *Meet the Press* thus to a great extent precipitated the case. It is here presented, with slight cuts, as a document of public interest.

THE participants in the broadcast, aside from Mr. Chambers, included Tom Reynolds of the Chicago *Sun-Times*, Nat Finney of Cowles Publications; Edward Folliard of the *Washington Post*; and Lawrence E. Spivak, editor of *THE AMERICAN MERCURY*. The press conference was presided over by James B. Reston of the *New York Times*.

FOLLIARD: Mr. Chambers, in the hearings on Capitol Hill you said over and over again that you served in the Communist Party

with Alger Hiss. Your remarks down there were privileged; that is to say, you were protected from lawsuits. Hiss has now challenged you to make the same charge publicly. He says if you do he will test your veracity by filing a suit for slander or libel. Are you willing to say now that Alger Hiss is or ever was a Communist?

CHAMBERS: Alger Hiss was a Communist and may be now.

REYNOLDS: As I understand it, you were interrogated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on several

occasions, independently of the investigations of the Committee. Is that true?

CHAMBERS: That is true, Mr. Reynolds.

REYNOLDS: I presume you gave the FBI a full report of your observations as a Communist and as an ex-Communist.

CHAMBERS: As full as possible.

REYNOLDS: Have you delivered anything to the Congressional Committee that has not been given to the FBI?

CHAMBERS: No, I do not think so.

REYNOLDS: Are you surprised that the charges, which must have been made to the FBI some time ago, are now sensationalized?

CHAMBERS: No, I am not particularly surprised. The foreign political situation has become such that the fight against Communism in the United States was inevitable and has now reached a stage commensurate with the general situation.

REYNOLDS: The Committee before which you have been testifying has made an issue in several cases as to whether a man was a Communist or not. Are you willing to tell your party affiliations? Are you a Democrat or a Republican now that you have left the Communist Party?

CHAMBERS: I am not affiliated officially with any party.

REYNOLDS: Are you aware of the possibility that the material you gave the FBI some time ago is now going to be quite useful, presumably, to the Republicans?

CHAMBERS: I am wholly and solely interested in eradicating Communism in the United States.

REYNOLDS: How long has it been since you first gave your data to the FBI?

CHAMBERS: I first turned over the information at my disposal to Mr. A. Berle, who was then Assistant Secretary of State. That was in 1939. In about 1945, I should think, the FBI asked me several questions, and I repeated to them the same story.

REYNOLDS: Is it true that you were interrogated on perhaps three or four occasions by the FBI?

CHAMBERS: On at least three or four occasions.

REYNOLDS: But you are convinced that nothing that has been testified on the Hill since this became a *cause célèbre* in the newspapers could have come as a surprise to the FBI?

CHAMBERS: I don't think so.

SPIVAK: Mr. Chambers, you were a member of the Communist Party for some thirteen or fourteen years, isn't that true?

CHAMBERS: That is true.

SPIVAK: What made you break? Was there something special, something specific, or was it an evolutionary process?

CHAMBERS: The reasons for breaking with Communism are complicated, both historically and personally. I had considered that Communism had proved itself a failure. Russia is the great example of applied Communism. It seemed to me that the

Russian State was not a Communist State but had become a dictatorship of a Party rather than a dictatorship of a class; that it was, in fact, very close to the fascist dictatorships.

SPIVAK: Was your awakening a slow awakening or was there some specific thing that happened that made you realize the mistake you had made by being a member of the Party and working for it as you had in the underground?

CHAMBERS: Dostoyevsky said in the 1860s that the problem of socialism is not the problem of economics, as is generally assumed; it is the problem of religion, the problem of atheism. When the religious problem intrudes itself on the Communist mind, one can no longer be a Communist. That is what happened to me.

SPIVAK: Did you join a church; I mean, did you turn to religion at that time?

CHAMBERS: I turned to religion during my break with the Communist Party, and I have since become a member of a church.

SPIVAK: Did you feel any obligation toward your country to see that some of the things that had been happening would no longer happen?

CHAMBERS: Such an obligation is implied. Of course.

FINNEY: I thought you left it a little unclear as to whether you are certain in your mind if Alger Hiss is now a member of the Communist Party or not.

CHAMBERS: I would not presume to say whether Mr. Hiss now is or is not a member of the Party.

FINNEY: Do you mean to say that you have not made a check whether he, as you, has recanted?

CHAMBERS: I have no possibility of making such a check. The House Committee on Un-American Activities subpoenaed me to tell what I knew about the Communist Party at the time Mr. Hiss was a member. I have testified to that. I have not presumed to testify what he is now.

REYNOLDS: Mr. Chambers, do you find it easier to make a living now than when you were a member of the Communist Party?

CHAMBERS: I gave no thought to the question of making a living while I was a Communist.

REYNOLDS: Do you find it easier to make a living now that you have left the Party?

CHAMBERS: I have no difficulty in making a living.

FOLLIARD: You told Mr. Spivak why you quit the Communist Party. I would like to know why you joined in the beginning.

CHAMBERS: Well, I testified a few days ago on that same question. It is a very complicated question. Among the factors, certainly, was a trip I took to Germany, to Europe, shortly after World War I. At that time I found Germany in chaos, northern France practically destroyed, much of Belgium in the same condition, armies occupying the Rhineland, people generally

desperate. It seemed to me, then, that Western Civilization had reached a crisis which it could not solve along any lines known to me, and I began to look for new lines. In that mood I began to read Marx and Lenin.

SPIVAK: Mr. Chambers, you left the Party, I believe, about 1937 or 1938.

CHAMBERS: In the early months of 1938.

SPIVAK: You tried to get Mr. Hiss to come along with you, as I remember your testimony.

CHAMBERS: That is true.

SPIVAK: But he, according to your testimony, refused. Now, during the last eleven years, very important years in the life of our country and the world, Mr. Hiss has held some very strategic and important positions. Why did you wait eleven years before the information you had was brought before the country?

CHAMBERS: As I have said, Mr. Spivak, I had already been to the properly constituted government agencies with that information. It was scarcely up to me to bring them out into the open.

REYNOLDS: In that respect, sir, why did you go to A. A. Berle rather than to the more properly constituted authority? Obviously he was not an authority as an Assistant Secretary of State at that time. Why didn't you go to the FBI?

CHAMBERS: Mr. Reynolds, it seemed to me that the people involved and the areas of government involved

were so important that no one less than the President should first have this information. I, therefore, sought to have it brought before President Roosevelt.

REYNOLDS: Are you implying that the FBI would not bring before the President of the United States a matter of such moment as the possible treason of an important State Department official?

CHAMBERS: I am only saying what my thought was at that time.

SPIVAK: Mr. Chambers, when you joined the Communist Party, did you take any kind of special oath?

CHAMBERS: I took no special oath.

SPIVAK: Doesn't a member who joins the Party, especially someone who becomes an underground member, or agent, take any oath to the Party?

CHAMBERS: I was in the Communist Party a number of years before I even dreamed of the underground, and such a person does not take an oath. There is no oath on joining the Communist Party.

SPIVAK: When you became a member of the underground did you take any oath?

CHAMBERS: No, I took no oath.

SPIVAK: In your judgment, can a man be a loyal American citizen and a member of the Communist Party?

CHAMBERS: It is quite impossible.

SPIVAK: Why do you say that?

CHAMBERS: The Communist Party exists for the purpose of overthrowing whatever government exists under it.

REYNOLDS: Mr. Chambers, did you appraise the weight of that conclusion at the time you became a Communist, that you no longer could be a loyal American citizen?

CHAMBERS: The question there is a question of nationalism versus internationalism. Communists are dedicated to internationalism. Every member who joins the Communist Party should know that, and most of them do know it.

REYNOLDS: But you had concluded that you no longer would be a loyal American citizen when you became a card-carrying member?

CHAMBERS: Every Communist does.

REYNOLDS: I believe you have been quoted as saying that the Communists will ultimately win. Do you still feel that way about it?

CHAMBERS: No. I thought back in 1938, when I was breaking, that they probably would win. I think that now they probably will not.

REYNOLDS: What is the key thing that will cause them to lose, in your estimation?

CHAMBERS: The Russian attitude, the Russian behavior in Europe, the fact that Communism has obviously failed in Russia.

SPIVAK: Mr. Chambers, the Communists you have known when you yourself were a member of the Party may not have taken an oath, but did they ever hesitate to lie or to cheat in the interest of the Party?

CHAMBERS: No so-called developed Communist would hesitate to do that.

SPIVAK: One of the questions in the minds of the American public today is this: A Communist is known to be a liar. What reason can you give them for believing your story today as an ex-Communist or as a reformed Communist?

CHAMBERS: I can simply try to produce facts which will on investigation stand up.

REYNOLDS: As a professional newspaperman, Mr. Chambers, I have some curiosity about one matter. As I recall it, you were foreign editor of *Time* magazine during the war.

CHAMBERS: I was.

REYNOLDS: The correspondents for foreign news around the State Department had as one of their better sources Alger Hiss. I am quite sure that is true, because I was told at times he talked in confidence to them. Did you use material from Alger Hiss in *Time* magazine during the war years when you were foreign editor?

CHAMBERS: Not to my knowledge.

REYNOLDS: Not to your knowledge? How could you escape that knowledge if the memorandum came in marked "from Alger Hiss"?

CHAMBERS: I recall no such memorandum.

FOLLIARD: Mr. Chambers, to go back to that opening question, you accepted Alger Hiss' challenge and publicly said that he had been at least a member of the Communist Party. Does that mean that you are now prepared to go into Court

and answer to a suit for slander or libel?

CHAMBERS: I do not think Mr. Hiss will sue me for slander or libel.

REYNOLDS: Would you charge Alger Hiss with an overt act as a Communist, as you said he was? Did Alger Hiss at any time, to your knowledge, do anything that was treasonable or beyond the law of the United States? That, I believe, brings you the opportunity to accept the Hiss challenge.

CHAMBERS: Whether or not it brings me the opportunity to accept the Hiss challenge, I am quite unprepared to say whether he did or did not. I am not familiar with the laws of treason.

SPIVAK: Mr. Chambers, did you ever have anything to do with the Nye Committee, or did you work on any members of the Nye Committee when you were a member of the Communist Party? You remember the Nye Committee was operating in 1934, and Mr. Hiss himself was one of its counsels.

CHAMBERS: Except for Mr. Hiss, Mr. Spivak, I don't believe I knew any members of the Nye Committee.

SPIVAK: Was the Communist Party interested at that time in the Nye Committee and in the actions of the Nye Committee?

CHAMBERS: The Communist Party was interested in the Nye Committee because it was exposing, or pretending to expose, the so-called munitions industry.

SPIVAK: Was Mr. Hiss in there in the

interest of the Communist Party? Did they have anything to do with his getting onto the Committee, or was that accidental?

CHAMBERS: The Communist Party was very much interested in his getting on that Committee.

REYNOLDS: Are you prepared at this time to say that Alger Hiss was anything more than, in your opinion, a Communist? Did he do anything wrong? Did he commit any overt act? Has he been disloyal to his country?

CHAMBERS: I am only prepared at this time to say he was a Communist.

REYNOLDS: It seems to me, then, sir, if I may say so, that in some respects this may be a tempest in a teapot. You say that he was a Communist, but will not accuse him of any act that is disloyal to the United States.

CHAMBERS: I am not prepared legally to make that charge. My whole interest in this business has been to show that Mr. Hiss was a Communist.

REYNOLDS: Would you be prepared, for instance, to put on the record the testimony that you gave during the three or four or five interrogations by the FBI?

CHAMBERS: The gist of that testimony is already on the record in the Un-American Committee.

REYNOLDS: I am not interested in the gist. But I presume that there were assertions that overt acts were committed. Are you willing to put on the record, so that it can be tested

in Courts under the laws of evidence, that this man did something wrong?

CHAMBERS: I think that what needs clarification is the purpose for which that group was set up to which Mr. Hiss belonged. That was a group, not, as I think is in the back of your mind, for the purpose of espionage, but for the purpose of infiltrating the government and influencing government policy by getting Communists in key places.

FINNEY: It was not, then, by definition, conspiracy?

CHAMBERS: No, it was not.

SPIVAK: Mr. Chambers, when you were a member of the underground, was there anything of particular importance or significance to the Russians that you yourself did or accomplished, or were you just a member of an underground that kind of played around Washington?

CHAMBERS: Well, I would hesitate to say that an underground which was able to place people in the Treasury and the State Department in positions of such importance was "playing around." They certainly were not doing anything directly for the Russians.

SPIVAK: You didn't place them there necessarily for spying, but rather to influence policy?

CHAMBERS: That is true; which is something very much more important than spying.

SPIVAK: Have you any idea whether Mr. Hiss, in any of the jobs he had, had any real influence on our pol-

icy? For example, do you know specifically or exactly what he did when he went to Yalta with the President.

CHAMBERS: No, I can't say that I do.

FINNEY: Mr. Chambers, was Mr. Hiss not in charge of the United Nations section of the State Department precisely at the time when our policy changed to a firm policy against the Soviet Union?

CHAMBERS: I do not know.

REYNOLDS: I was in Washington at the time that the Soviet Union was recognized by the United States. Liberalism, so-called, was the fashion and the fad. Oliver Wendell Holmes was the god of such young people as Mr. Alger Hiss. Mr. Alger Hiss was a leftist in the Holmes pattern. Did he have to go far to the left to be guilty of whatever you are accusing him of, which I am not quite sure of.

CHAMBERS: I am accusing him of membership in the Communist Party. I am not even accusing him of that. I am simply saying that he was a member of the Party.

FINNEY: Mr. Chambers, I gather from what you say that you have a dedication to extirpate members of the Communist Party as such.

CHAMBERS: To extirpate them?

FINNEY: Yes, in this country.

CHAMBERS: I certainly think that it would be most unfortunate, in fact, disastrous, for this country if Communists retain key positions in the government or in industry.

REYNOLDS: Since there has been

much discussion before the Committee about George Crosley and Whittaker Chambers and a courier named Carl, would you tell us, sir, how many names you used when you were in the underground?

CHAMBERS: In Washington the Communists knew me as Carl. While I was in the Communist Party I perhaps used half a dozen names. But I preferred to use my own name.

REYNOLDS: Were you ever referred to as Crosley?

CHAMBERS: Not to my knowledge.

SPIVAK: After you broke with the Party and after Mr. Hiss, according to you, refused to go along with you, did you ever see him again?

CHAMBERS: No, I never saw him again until we met in the Hotel Commodore.

FOLLIARD: As a newspaper reporter, I have been curious about one thing, Mr. Chambers. When you

were a Communist, you wrote for the *Daily Worker* and the *New Masses*. Then, when you quit, you went to *Time* magazine. I have been wondering, was the transition difficult or violent?

CHAMBERS: Mr. Folliard, when I broke with Communism I broke completely. The normal position it seems to me, for a man who has broken with Communism is conservatism. I had no difficulty whatever in making the adjustment.

SPIVAK: Mr. Chambers, at best what do you hope your testimony before the Un-American Committee is going to accomplish?

CHAMBERS: I hope that my testimony before the Un-American Committee will help to drive Communists out of the government and to drive underground Communism into the open.

RESTON: Well, gentlemen, we are not running out of questions, but we are running out of time.



United States Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

New York, New York

March 1, 1949

MEMO

RE: JAHAM

On the morning of March 1, Mr. H. B. Fletcher of the Bureau called concerning the motions by the defense before Judge Bondy to have the Government produce certain documents for examination by the defense. Mr. Fletcher advised that, relative to the sample letters identified by the FBI Laboratory as coming from the Woodstock typewriter which were gathered as a result of investigation by Bureau agents, the Bureau is preparing a memorandum for the Department reflecting the whereabouts of these letters at the present time. Mr. Fletcher advised that the Bureau's records reflect that these letters have all been returned to the original individuals from whom the Bureau agents obtained them with the exception of the letters from the LANDON SCHOOL and the letter obtained by the New York office under subpoena from the insurance company. Mr. Fletcher advised that, according to the Bureau's records, Mr. Donegan is in possession of the LANDON SCHOOL letter which was turned over to him on December 14, and the document from the insurance company is in the possession of the New York office which obtained it under subpoena.

On the morning of March 1, Mr. Donegan advised me that he did have possession of the original LANDON SCHOOL letter which was marked as a Grand Jury exhibit. SA Donald Shannon advised me that we do have possession of the original document from the insurance company which was obtained under subpoena. Mr. Fletcher was telephonically advised of the location of the two documents concerning which he inquired.

From discussion with Agent Shannon it appears that there are 6 pertinent documents which have been located and identified as coming from the Woodstock typewriter. They are as follows:

1. Letter dated December 6, 1931, signed by DAISY FANSLER. This letter was secured by agents of the Philadelphia office and the original has been returned to the person from whom it was obtained. (according to Bureau)

2. Letter dated January 30, 1933 to an insurance broker named WALTER L. TIBBETTS, unsigned. This was turned over by Attorney McLEAN to this office with the statement that it came from the effects of ALGER HISS. The original has been returned to Attorney McLEAN.

3. Letter dated February 17, 1933, addressed to WALTER C. SCHELNER of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, signed by ALGER HISS. This is

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March 1, 1949

presently in the possession of this office having been obtained by subpoena. Attorney McLEAN has a carbon copy of this letter and therefore knows of its existence.

4. Typewritten document captioned "Description of Personal Characteristics of Timothy Hobson", an enclosure with a handwritten letter dated December 9, 1936 from the LANDON SCHOOL in Maryland. This concerns the entry of TIMOTHY HOBSON to that school. The original of this document is in the possession of Mr. Donegan as of this time; having been introduced as an exhibit before the Grand Jury, and McLEAN is unaware of the existence of this letter, insofar as we know.

5. Letter dated May 25, 1937, to the University of Maryland, signed by PRISCILLA HISS. This was obtained by agents of the Baltimore office and has been returned to the person from whom the original was obtained. The defense has no knowledge of this letter, insofar as we know.

6. Document reflecting an address by PRISCILLA HISS, apparently in the Spring of 1937, to the alumnae of Bryn Mawr. This was obtained by agents of the Washington Field office and has been returned to the person from whom obtained. Insofar as we know, the defense has no knowledge of this document.

Mr. Fletcher advised that in the Bureau's memorandum to the Department, the Bureau is going to point out that officials of the LANDON SCHOOL refused to turn information over to the attorneys of HISS. Consequently, this should be borne in mind by the Department relative to the request of the defense for this letter. Mr. Fletcher advised that the Department will be informed of the whereabouts of each of these documents. In addition to mentioning that officials of the LANDON SCHOOL refused to turn over the records of the LANDON SCHOOL to the defense, the Bureau memorandum will point out that those documents which have been returned are not in the possession of the Bureau and the confidential nature of the Bureau's investigation will be pointed out in the memorandum insofar as the names of the persons from whom obtained are concerned. Relative to the LANDON SCHOOL letter, Mr. Fletcher advised that it was up to the Department as to whether this should be turned over to McLEAN. The same holds true concerning the Equitable Life Assurance Company letter which is now in our possession. He advised that if Mr. Whearty decides that the Department will turn this over to McLEAN, the request will be made of us here to turn it over to the Departmental representatives.

A. H. BELMONT
ASAC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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65-14920

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NEW YORK, N.Y.
MARCH 1, 1949

Transmit the following Teletype message to: SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD **(URGENT)**
JAHAM. REURTEL FEBRUARY TWENTY FOURTH LAST. SUMMARY RE ELEANOR NELSON SOY-
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Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent 6/5/49 M Per 6/5/49

65-14920-2450



United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation

New York, New York

March 1, 1949

MEMO

RE: JAHAM

At 12 noon on March 1, 1949, I spoke to Mr. Leo Laughlin at the Bureau to advise him that the Baltimore office had called us to state that they had WILLIAM ROSEN under surveillance and they desired to know whether we wanted them to serve a subpoena on him for his appearance before the Federal Grand Jury, Southern District of New York. Mr. Laughlin was reminded that the Washington Field office, Baltimore and New York had been searching for ROSEN as a possible witness in this case. He was advised that we had just checked with Mr. Donegan as to his desires concerning the service of the subpoena on ROSEN and that Donegan requested, in the interest of speed, that the Baltimore office get in touch with the United States Attorney in Baltimore and advise him that a subpoena was desired for the appearance of ROSEN before the Grand Jury at 10:00 am on March 2. In the event the United States Attorney wanted any questions answered, Mr. Donegan suggested that he call Mr. Whearty at the Department in Washington.

I advised Mr. Laughlin that we are calling Baltimore and furnishing that office with this advice and that we wanted the Bureau to know the action that was being taken and that, because ROSEN is under surveillance and has been difficult to locate, the agents will serve the subpoena on him, unless the Bureau advised to the contrary.

A. H. BELMONT
ASAC

AHB:CTC
65-14920

65-117-1
F. B. I.
LAB 1 1949
N. Y. C.
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[Signature]

March 2, 1949

SERIAL 2455 - NY letter to Director dated 2/18/49 - fifteen
- a page letter with photost attached.

La C's
(Being kept in ~~the~~ Schmidt's Office by
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